



Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2006 – 07

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Honorable Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair
Honorable Leroy Baca, Vice Chair
Mark Delgado, Executive Director

DRUG COURT OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE

Honorable Rudolph Diaz, Chair
Michael P. Judge, Vice Chair

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I. Executive Summary

The Los Angeles County Drug Court Program diverts non-violent drug offenders with chronic substance abuse disorders out of the local jail and state prison systems and into treatment. Drug courts employ a non-adversarial, collaborative approach and offer an alternative to incarceration to offenders dealing with drug abuse and dependence. Nationally and locally, drug courts have repeatedly been found to generate cost savings for the criminal justice system, decrease recidivism among drug offenders, and, most importantly, help participants return to a productive life.

There are currently 12 traditional adult drug courts, two juvenile drug courts, and four specialized court programs based on the drug court model in Los Angeles County. All Los Angeles drug courts feature collaboration among judicial officers, prosecution, defense, law enforcement, probation and community-based treatment providers. Each program offers a structured regimen of treatment and recovery services based on thorough assessments of participants' severity of addiction and treatment needs.

During Fiscal Year 2006-07, almost 800 individuals entered the Adult Drug Court Program in Los Angeles County. Combined with continuing participants, over 1,600 people received treatment and services during that period. A total of 447 individuals graduated during the course of the year. Over the last five fiscal years, 5,669 new participants entered Los Angeles Drug Courts, and over 2,100 individuals have graduated from the program.

There has been a steady decrease in the number of participants entering drug court programs over the last five years, including a 32% reduction in new participants from FY 2005-06 to FY 2006-07. The reduction in drug court enrollment is largely attributable to the launch of Proposition 36 in 2001 and significant reductions in drug court funding. The addition of Proposition 36 to the continuum of options available for non-violent drug offenders in late 2001 affected the number of individuals entering drug court. The effect of Proposition 36 seemed to have stabilized in FY 2005-06 when the number of drug court participants increased slightly from the prior year. However, another significant drop in new participants entering the Drug Court Program occurred in FY 2006-07. This reduction is likely due to several factors: the continued effect of Proposition 36 on the Drug Court Program; the elimination of several federal grants; and an overall reduction in funding from the State to the County's Alcohol and Drug Program Administration.

Five years of recidivism data is available for graduates from FY 2001-02 through FY 2003-04. The data show an average recidivism rate for the three cohorts of graduates of 29%. (Over 70% of those who graduated from the Los Angeles County Drug Court Program in the three fiscal years have not been convicted of a new offense). For the FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06 cohorts of drug court graduates, only partial data is available (four and three-year data respectively) and the average recidivism rate for the two cohorts of graduates is approximately 20%. These rates are well below the recidivism rate for similar offenders who do not participate in a drug court program.

Under the auspices of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee oversees the collaborative efforts of the various agencies involved in the Los Angeles Drug Court Program. The Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee provides programmatic and technical assistance, coordinates countywide data collection and program evaluation activities, and develops consensus on countywide policies and program standards.

Training is also a major focus of the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee. The subcommittee and CCJCC held the Annual Drug Court Training Conference in May 2007. Over 250 individuals involved in the Los Angeles County Drug Court Program attended the conference, which included plenary presentations and break-out sessions on the newest research on drug use trends, substance abuse treatment, and best practices for collaborative courts.

II. Introduction and Overview

The Drug Court Model

Drug courts are a unique collaboration between the criminal justice system and drug treatment professionals who work together to intervene in the lives of substance dependent criminal offenders. Drug courts employ a non-adversarial, collaborative approach and divert non-violent offenders with chronic substance abuse disorders out of jail and prison systems and into treatment. Court teams traditionally include representatives from the judiciary, defense counsel, prosecution, probation, law enforcement, and mental health and substance abuse treatment communities. These stakeholders work together to offer offenders an alternative to incarceration and a chance to address their substance abuse.

Drug courts have repeatedly been found to generate cost savings to the criminal justice system, decrease recidivism among graduates, and, most importantly, help participants return to a productive life. In a February 2005 report, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) concluded that adult drug court programs substantially reduce crime by lowering re-arrest and conviction rates among drug court graduates well after program completion, providing overall greater cost/benefits for drug court participants and graduates than comparison group members (GAO-05-219).

The first drug court program began in Miami, Florida in 1989. The success of that court served as the model for the development of drug courts throughout the nation. Currently, there are more than 2,000 drug courts in operation across the country.

The Los Angeles County Drug Court Program

In 1994, the Los Angeles Municipal Court and the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC) established the county's first drug court program at the Downtown Criminal Courts Building (Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center). Within two months, a second court was implemented at the Rio Hondo Municipal Court in El Monte. These two pilot programs were the beginning of the Los Angeles County Drug Court Program and represented the start of a movement to significantly alter the justice system's response to drug addiction and crime.

After 1994, drug courts were established throughout Los Angeles County. Today, there are 12 traditional adult drug courts, two juvenile drug court programs and four specialized court programs based on the drug court model. In addition, in 2001 California voters approved Proposition 36, which established a network of courts based on the drug court model to divert low-level, non-violent drug offenders into treatment. Together, these collaborative courts offer a continuum of care and drug treatment services for drug involved and dependent offenders in Los Angeles County.

The County's system of drug courts consists of both a "pre-plea" diversion and "post-plea" design, which is intended to provide a treatment alternative to prosecution for non-

violent felony drug offenders. Drug Courts have evolved into multi-track program models which include a variety of post-plea participant categories, such as probation violators, defendants who have pled guilty as a condition for admission into the program, and defendants terminated from Proposition 36 Treatment Court.

Key Elements of the Drug Court Model

The drug court model is based on 10 key elements. These elements are widely recognized to be vital to the successful implementation and operation of drug courts. All Los Angeles drug courts are founded on the 10 key elements. (See Appendix A).

- Element 1: *Integration of treatment services with justice system case processing*
All members of the drug court team agree to and approve a treatment plan for drug court participants. The treatment plan is seen as an integral component of court conditions on the participants.
- Element 2: *Non-adversarial approach*
The drug court team functions as a collaborative body with prosecution, defense counsel, and the bench officer all agreeing and working together to serve the best interests of public safety and the treatment plan of drug court participants.
- Element 3: *Early identification and placement of eligible clients*
Both defense counsel and prosecution work on identifying potential clients for drug courts. Early screening and assessment are key elements of the Los Angeles Drug Court Program.
- Element 4: *Access to a continuum of alcohol and drug and other related treatment services*
All Drug Court treatment providers in Los Angeles County are expected and required to offer a continuum of services for drug court clients based on their needs. All drug court participants are assessed for addiction severity and other needs and, based on those assessments, are placed in the appropriate level of treatment.
- Element 5: *Frequent alcohol and drug testing*
A key element of the drug court model is accountability. Frequent and random drug testing is a vital component of the Los Angeles Drug Court Program. Frequency of testing is determined by the level of addiction severity and agreement among the drug court team and judge.
- Element 6: *Coordinated strategy for responses to client compliance*
All Los Angeles Drug Courts operate with specific procedures for reporting progress and client compliance with the treatment plan. Treatment providers provide regular progress reports to the court and swiftly notify the drug court team when a drug court participant is non-compliant with any aspect of their treatment plan.

- **Element 7: *Ongoing judicial interaction with each client***
One of the most vital elements in the Los Angeles Drug Court Program is the role of the bench officer. Frequent court appearances are the hallmark of drug courts. Drug court participants are routinely required to appear to report on their progress and discuss non-compliance issues. Bench officers provide guidance, encouragement, rewards, and sanctions when needed.
- **Element 8: *Monitoring and evaluation measures***
Monitoring, oversight, and evaluation of the Los Angeles County Drug Courts have been a hallmark of the program from the beginning. The multi-agency Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee establishes standards and practices for the drug court program and regularly reviews operations and addresses issues. The Los Angeles Alcohol and Drug Program Administration administers a contract for independent evaluation of the drug court program.
- **Element 9: *Continuing interdisciplinary education***
On-going training is a key element of the Los Angeles Drug Court Program. An annual training conference brings together drug court professionals from across disciplines to hear the latest research and information related to drug treatment and drug courts. Specific training for drug treatment providers is also held on an annual basis.
- **Element 10: *Drug court partnerships***
Each Los Angeles County Drug Court is based on partnerships between all the stakeholders in the criminal justice system and drug treatment network. These partnerships ensure that the drug courts operate effectively and efficiently, and most importantly work to assist drug involved and dependent offenders into recovery.

Drug Court Phases

The Los Angeles Drug Court Program offers a structured regimen of treatment and recovery services based on thorough assessments of participants' severity of addiction and treatment needs. Each court operates with a phased approach to treatment and supervision. Drug court teams continuously screen potential candidates for the program, create individual treatment and supervision plans for each participant, and carefully monitor their progress throughout the programs phases. Clients must meet specific criteria before transitioning to the next phase, such as having no positive drug tests or unexcused absences, complying with treatment and court orders, positively adjusting to treatment plans, and regularly appearing before the bench officer. (See Appendix B).

Trial Phase

The Trial Phase of the drug court program consists of frequent drug testing, mandatory group meetings, and counseling sessions. This phase is essential in

assessing a participants' commitment to treatment and level of motivation. The Trial Phase is approximately two weeks in duration. Upon successful completion, participants are formally transitioned into the program and Phase I.

Phase I

Phase I focuses on assessment, stabilization, and the commencement of an individualized treatment plan. Frequent counseling sessions, mandatory 12-step meetings, and mandatory drug testing characterize Phase I. Emphasis is placed on participants beginning to develop employment, vocational, and education goals and plans.

Phase II

Phase II includes intensive treatment services, counseling focused on long-term recovery and socialization, mandatory 12-step meetings, and mandatory drug testing. The frequency of testing and meetings is less than Phase I and reflects a growing commitment to recovery on the part of the participant. Emphasis is placed on pursuing individual employment and vocational/education goals.

Phase III

Phase III focuses on transition from intense treatment to long-term relapse prevention. Counseling sessions continue with a larger concentration on self-sufficiency. Mandatory 12-step meetings and drug testing continue, but on a less frequent basis than in Phase II. Phase III prepares participants for graduation from the program and for long-lasting recovery.

III. Los Angeles County Drug Courts

Los Angeles County is home to 12 adult drug courts, two juvenile drug courts and four specialized programs based on the drug court model. Each drug court features collaboration among a judicial officer, prosecution, defense counsel, law enforcement, probation, and a community-based treatment provider. Los Angeles Drug Courts have excelled in accessing the resources of their particular communities and providing treatment services that reflect the needs of participants in each region of the county.

Adult Drug Courts

Listed below are the 12 adult drug courts located throughout Los Angeles County (See Appendix C). Each drug court is headed by a judge or commissioner and is served by a community-based treatment provider that works closely with the bench officer and entire drug court team to provide substance abuse treatment and services to participants.

| | |
|---|---|
| Antelope Valley Drug Court Commissioner Cathrin DeVoe Established July 2002 | Pasadena Drug Court Judge Terry Smerling Established 1995 |
| Compton Drug Court Judge Ellen DeShazer Established 1998 | Pomona Drug Court Judge Juan C. Dominguez Established 1999 |
| East Los Angeles Drug Court Judge Henry Barela Established 1999 | Rio Hondo Drug Court Commissioner Jose A. Rodriguez Established 1994 |
| Inglewood Drug Court Judge Deborah Christian; Judge Edward B. Moreton Established 1997 | Southeast/Whittier Drug Court Commissioner Loren DiFrank Established 1997 |
| Long Beach Drug Court Judge Otis Wright; Judge James Otto Established 2000 | West Los Angeles/Airport Drug Court Judge Bernard Kamins; Judge Ralph Amado Established 1996 |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Los Angeles Foltz Criminal Justice Center Drug Court Judge Dorothy Reyes Established 1994</p> | <p>Van Nuys Drug Court Judge Dennis Mulcahy Established 1999</p> |
|---|---|

Juvenile Drug Court Program

The Los Angeles Juvenile Drug Court Program incorporates the same general principles and program elements as the adult drug courts. The program targets non-violent juvenile offenders with substance abuse problems. Designed for both male and female participants, the mission of the program is to provide an integrated and comprehensive system of treatment for high-risk minors and their parents within the highly structured drug court setting.

Juvenile drug court is a voluntary program. It includes regular court appearances before a designated drug court judicial officer, intensive supervision by the probation department, frequent drug testing, and a comprehensive program of treatment services provided by a community-based agency. Individual, group, and family counseling sessions are all provided by the treatment agency. The involvement of the minor's parents and family members is strongly encouraged. Referrals for ancillary services, such as vocational training, job placement services and remedial education, are made as needed. Participants must complete a minimum of 12 months in the program, comply with all program requirements, and be drug-free to be considered for graduation from Drug Court.

The first juvenile drug court was established at the Sylmar Juvenile Court facility in July 1998. Judge Fred Fujioka is currently the bench officer over the Sylmar Juvenile Court. The Eastlake Juvenile Drug Court Program was implemented in 2002 and targets drug-involved juveniles considered at the greatest risk of becoming chronic, serious offenders. The Eastlake program includes an in-custody treatment component allowing the juvenile drug court bench officers to use short-term confinements in a secure therapeutic facility as a treatment sanction. Commissioner Robert Totten currently heads the Eastlake Drug Court.

Specialized Collaborative Courts

Several specialized courts have been created in Los Angeles County utilizing the drug court model. Most of these courts have begun on a pilot basis with grant funding. Each program is headed by a judicial officer committed to the collaborative court model, includes a non-adversarial team approach, and is based on the key elements of the drug court model. All the programs incorporate detailed evaluation plans to allow for measurement of their effectiveness and outcomes. This information can be utilized to advocate for further funding and expansion.

Co-Occurring Disorders Court – Judge Michael Tynan

The Co-Occurring Disorders Court (CODC) is a pilot program launched in 2007 under the leadership of Judge Michael Tynan. Funded by the County's Homeless Prevention Initiative, CODC focuses on offenders who suffer from both a mental illness and a substance abuse problem and, as a result, have frequent contact with the criminal justice system. The program utilizes the drug court model and offers intensive mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and other needed services. The program can currently accommodate 54 clients at any given time and targets the downtown/Skid Row population.

Juvenile Dependency Drug Court

In 2006, the Los Angeles County Juvenile Dependency Court convened a committee to address substance abuse issues and treatment for parents and families involved in the dependency court system. Through a grant obtained in May 2006, a pilot dependency drug court was established under the leadership of Commissioner Stephen Marpet to target primary caretaker parents whose children were under the juvenile dependency court jurisdiction and whose substance abuse appeared to be a significant issue impeding family reunification. The court originally served 20 volunteer adult clients and provided substance abuse treatment and recovery support services to those parents. In late 2007, this model was expanded to include a larger number of clients in the original court and to create four additional courts in other areas of the County (Compton, Torrance, Metro-North, and Lancaster). The ultimate goal is for all dependency courts in the county to implement this program.

Sentenced Offender Drug Court (SODC) – Judge Michael Tynan

The Sentenced Offender Drug Court (SODC), initiated in August 1998, is an intensive program for convicted, non-violent felony offenders who face state prison commitments due to their criminal records and history of drug addiction. These higher risk offenders have medium to high levels of drug addiction and are offered the SODC program with formal probation as an alternative to state prison. SODC integrates in-custody and post-release treatment components. All SODC participants spend a mandatory 90 days in the county jail where they are assigned to a specialized drug treatment module. Following this period of intensive in-custody treatment, participants are assigned to a 90-day residential treatment facility. Finally, they are admitted into community-based transitional housing where they begin a six- to nine-month phase of comprehensive "outpatient" treatment and intensive drug testing under direct supervision of the judge. SODC can accommodate up to 100 participants and is almost always at capacity.

Women's Reentry Court – Judge Michael Tynan

The Women's Reentry Court is a pilot program and a joint collaboration with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The court, which began in May 2007, is based on the collaborative court model and targets women parolees who are charged with a new offense in Los Angeles County. In lieu of being sentenced to state prison on the new charge, participants are enrolled in an intensive six-month residential program followed by six months of out-patient treatment. Women who are on probation

are also eligible for the program under alternative funding streams. The program currently serves 20 parolees and 30 probationers and offers mental health, substance abuse, employment assistance and trauma-related counseling services. While the program is not exclusive to women with substance abuse problems or drug offense histories, it is based upon the 10 key elements of the drug court model.

IV. Oversight

The Drug Court Program must have a broad and ongoing base of support to succeed. The program continues to rely on a coalition of agencies, organizations and elected leaders to facilitate communication and collaboration. Under the auspices of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee was created to oversee the collaborative efforts of the various agencies involved in the Drug Court Program (See Appendix D). The Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee is comprised of judicial officers and administrators of the Los Angeles Superior Court and representatives from the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Sheriff's Department, the Probation Department, the Department of Public Health Alcohol and Drug Program Administration, and local law enforcement agencies. The subcommittee is chaired by Judge Rudolph Diaz and vice-chaired by Michael P. Judge, the Public Defender of Los Angeles County. To provide additional leadership and coordination, the Superior Court has also designated Judge Michael A. Tynan as Supervising Drug Court Judge.

The Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee provides programmatic and technical assistance to the various drug courts, coordinates countywide data collection and program evaluation activities, and facilitates consensus on countywide policies and program standards. The subcommittee is responsible for collaboratively developing general policy guidelines for all of the county's drug courts, which are published in the *Drug Court Standards and Practices*. This policy document undergoes revisions as the Drug Court program evolves.

Training is another major focus of the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee. The subcommittee continually organizes and facilitates training for those involved in the drug court program and sponsors an annual drug court conference.

V. Los Angeles County Drug Court Program Statistics

Program Numbers

Fiscal Year 2006-07

Almost 800 individuals entered the Drug Court Program during Fiscal Year 2006-07. Combined with continuing participants, over 1,600 people received treatment and services through this period. A total of 447 individuals graduated during the course of the year, and 787 were terminated from the program. The termination rate for the year was approximately 45%. This is comparable to retention rates in drug courts nationwide and exceeds retention rates among drug abusers who are not court ordered into drug treatment.

Table 1 shows the number of participants that entered, continued in, graduated or were terminated from the Adult Drug Court Program in Los Angeles County during Fiscal Year 2006-07. These figures and those that follow do not include data from the Co-Occurring Disorders Court, Sentenced Offender Drug Court, Women's Reentry Court, Juvenile Drug Court or Juvenile Dependency Court.

Table 1: New, Continuing, Graduated and Terminated Participants - Fiscal Year 2006-07

| FY 2006-07 | New Participants | Continuing Participants¹ | Graduated Participants | Terminated Participants |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st Quarter | 184 | 815 | 107 | 206 |
| 2nd Quarter | 126 | 686 | 101 | 177 |
| 3rd Quarter | 299 | 970 | 145 | 223 |
| 4th Quarter | 189 | 901 | 94 | 181 |
| Total | 798 | 843 | 447 | 787 |

Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2006-07

Over the last five fiscal years, 5,669 new participants have entered the Drug Court Program. Over 2,100 individuals have graduated from the program, and just over 4,000 participants have been terminated.

There has been a steady decrease in the numbers of participants entering the program over the five-year period, including a 32% reduction in new participants from FY 2005-06 to FY 2006-07. The addition of Proposition 36 to the continuum of options available for non-violent drug offenders in late 2001 affected the number of individuals entering the Drug Court Program. As more individuals chose Proposition 36 in lieu of the more rigorous drug court (frequent urinalysis, jail sanctions, etc.), the number of drug court participants decreased.

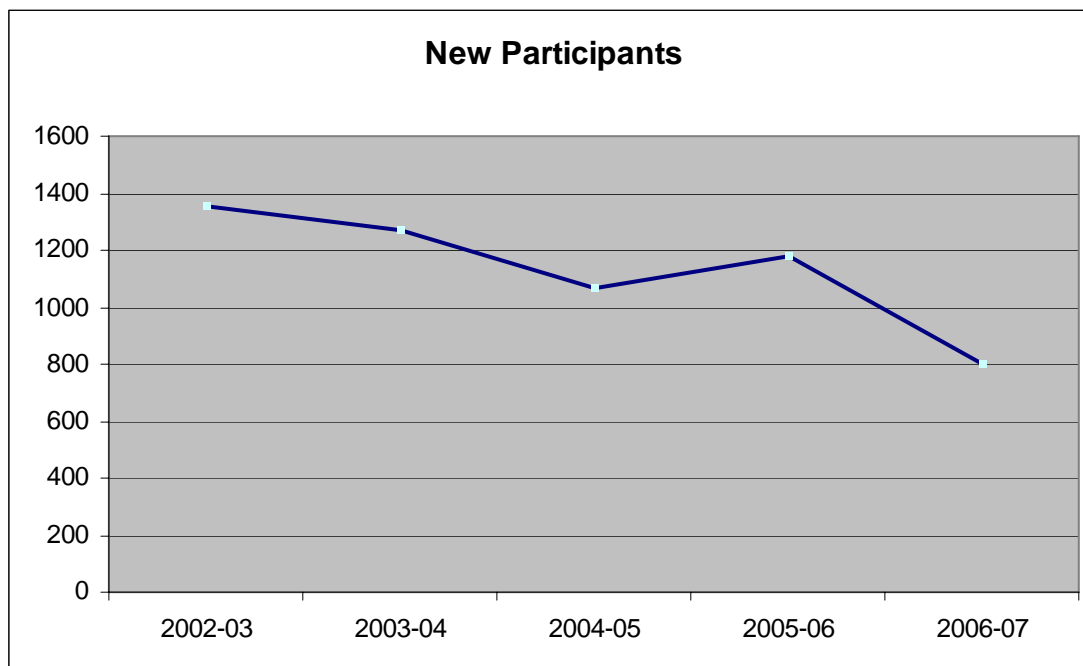
¹ The Total for Continuing Participants is expressed as an average over the 4 quarters to avoid counting individuals more than once.

The effect of Proposition 36 seemed to have stabilized during FY 2005-06 when the number of drug court participants slightly increased from the prior year. However, another significant drop in new participants entering the Drug Court Program occurred in FY 2006-07. This reduction is likely due to several factors: the continued effect of Proposition 36 on the Drug Court Program; the elimination of several federal grants; and an overall reduction in funding from the State to the County's Alcohol and Drug Program Administration.

Table 2: New, Continuing, Graduated and Terminated Participants – Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | New Participants | Graduated Participants | Terminated Participants |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FY 2002 - 03 | 1354 | 452 | 833 |
| FY 2003 – 04 | 1267 | 451 | 950 |
| FY 2004 – 05 | 1068 | 433 | 708 |
| FY 2005 – 06 | 1182 | 343 | 758 |
| FY 2006 – 07 | 798 | 447 | 787 |
| Total | 5669 | 2126 | 4036 |

Figure 1



Participant Demographics

Age

Eighty percent of new participants entering the Adult Drug Court Program are over the age of 25, with majority being 36 years of age or older. Individuals 18 to 24 years of age

represent approximately 20% of the drug court participant pool. The age distribution of drug court participants has remained mostly constant over the five-year period, with a moderate increase over the past two years in the number of participants 36 years of age and older.

Table 3: New Participant Age – Fiscal Year 2002–03 through Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | Below 18 | 18 – 24 | 25 – 35 | 36 and older | Total |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| FY 2002-03 | 12 (1%) | 270 (20%) | 447 (33%) | 625 (46%) | 1354 |
| FY 2003-04 | 1 (0%) | 241 (19%) | 404 (32%) | 621 (49%) | 1267 |
| FY 2004-05 | 3 (0%) | 244 (23%) | 367 (34%) | 454 (43%) | 1068 |
| FY 2005-06 | 4 (0%) | 204 (17%) | 365 (31%) | 609 (52%) | 1182 |
| FY 2006-07 | 2 (0%) | 126 (16%) | 257 (32%) | 413 (52%) | 798 |
| Total | 22 | 1085 | 1840 | 2722 | 5669 |

Gender

Seventy percent of new participants in the drug court program are male. This percentage has remained relatively constant over the course of the last five fiscal years. (See Appendix E for five-year data.)

Table 4: New Participant Gender Distribution – Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| FY 2006-07 | 548 (69%) | 250 (31%) | 798 |

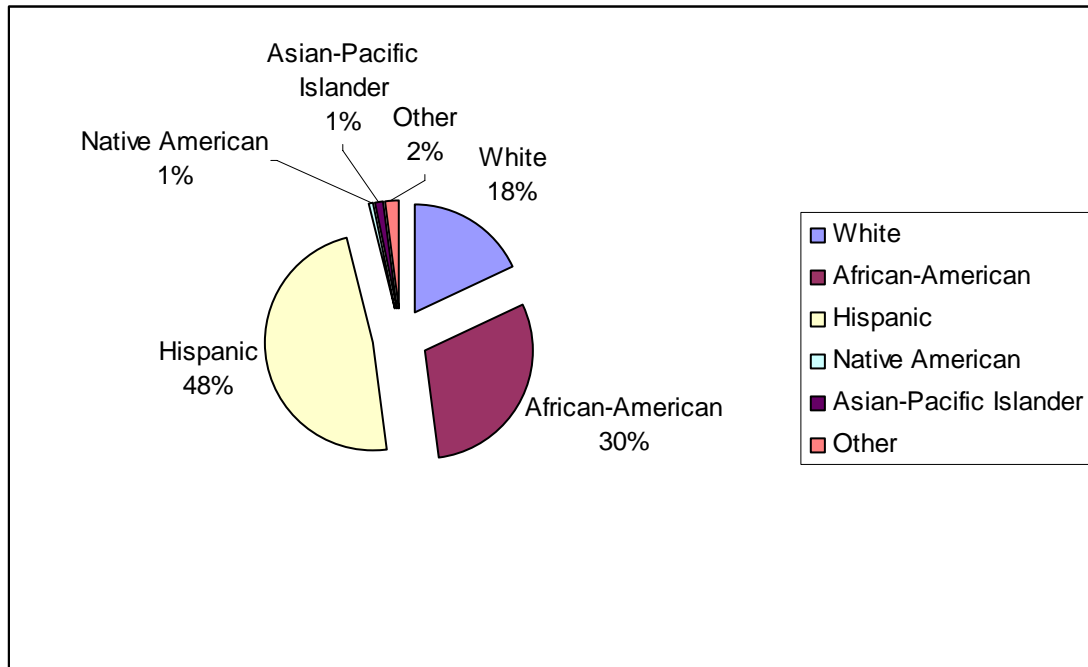
Race/Ethnicity

The race/ethnicity of new participants entering the Adult Drug Court Program during Fiscal Year 2006-07 is reported in Table 5. Approximately 30% of new participants are African-American; 48% are Hispanic; 18% are White. Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Islanders and those that identify as “Other” represent the remaining 4% of participants. These percentages have remained steady over the last five fiscal years (See Appendix E for five-year data.)

Table 5: New Participant Race/Ethnicity – Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | White | African-American | Hispanic | Native American | Asian-Pacific Islander | Other | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| FY 2006 – 07 | 143 (18%) | 241 (30%) | 382 (48%) | 5 (1%) | 11 (1%) | 16 (2%) | 798 |

Figure 2



Participant Drug Use/Abuse

Primary Drug of Choice

In 2006-07, the overwhelming majority of participants reported either methamphetamine or cocaine as their primary drug of choice (37% and 31%, respectively). Heroin represented the third most prevalent primary drug of choice at 12%.

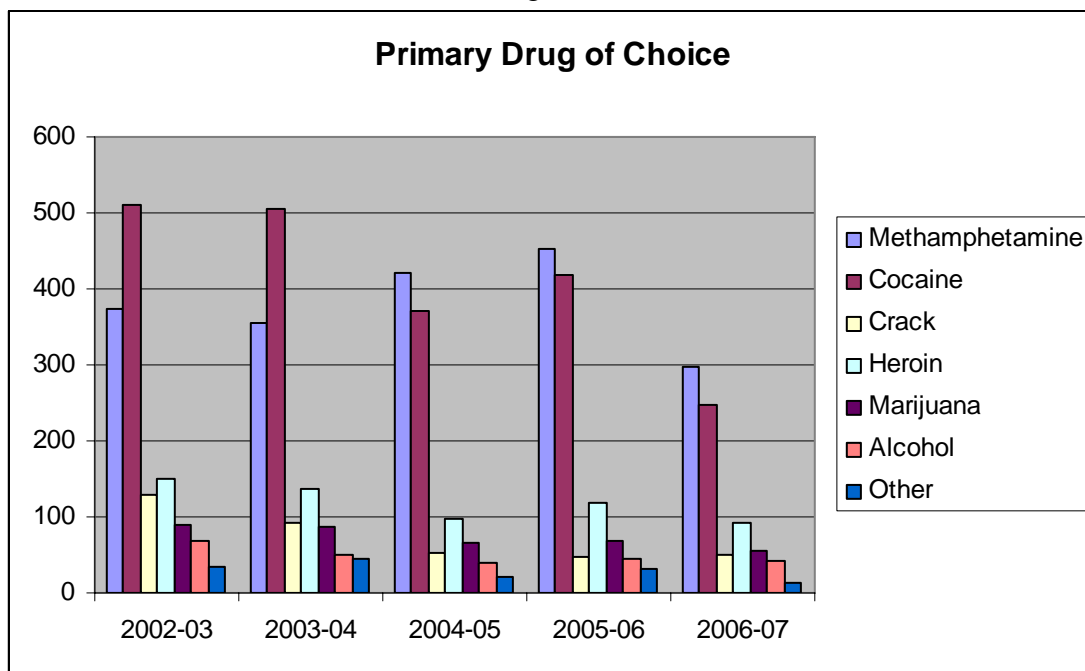
This trend holds constant over the five fiscal years with the exception that cocaine was the most prevalent primary drug of choice prior to Fiscal Year 2004-05. After FY 2004-05, methamphetamine became the primary drug of choice and has remained so through FY 2006-07. The data also show that crack cocaine steadily declined as a primary drug of choice over the five-year period.

Table 6: New Participant Primary Drug of Choice

| | Alcohol | Cocaine | Crack | Heroin | Marijuana | Methamphetamine | All Other Drugs | Total |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| FY 2002 – 03 | 69 (5%) | 510 (38%) | 129 (10%) | 151 (10%) | 89 (7%) | 373 (28%) | 33 (2%) | 1354 |
| FY 2003 – 04 | 50 (4%) | 504 (40%) | 92 (7%) | 136 (11%) | 87 (7%) | 354 (28%) | 44 (3%) | 1267 |
| FY | 40 (4%) | 372 | 52 | 97 | 65 (6%) | 422 (40%) | 20 | 1068 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------|-----------|------------|------------------|
| 2004 – 05 | | (35%) | (5%) | (9%) | | | (1%) | |
| FY 2005- 06 | 44 (4%) | 419 (35%) | 48 (4%) | 118 (10%) | 68 (6%) | 452 (38%) | 32 (3%) | 1181 |
| FY 2006 – 07 | 43 (5%) | 247 (31%) | 51 (6%) | 92 (12%) | 54 (7%) | 297 (37%) | 12 (2%) | 796 ² |

Figure 3



Length of Drug Use/Abuse

Table 7 illustrates the length of drug use/abuse reported by new participants in Fiscal Year 2006-07. The data show that drug court participants have very lengthy drug use histories, with the overwhelming majority (53%) reporting that they have used drugs for 11 or more years. The percentages reported below hold relatively constant from Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2006-07 (See Appendix E for the data).

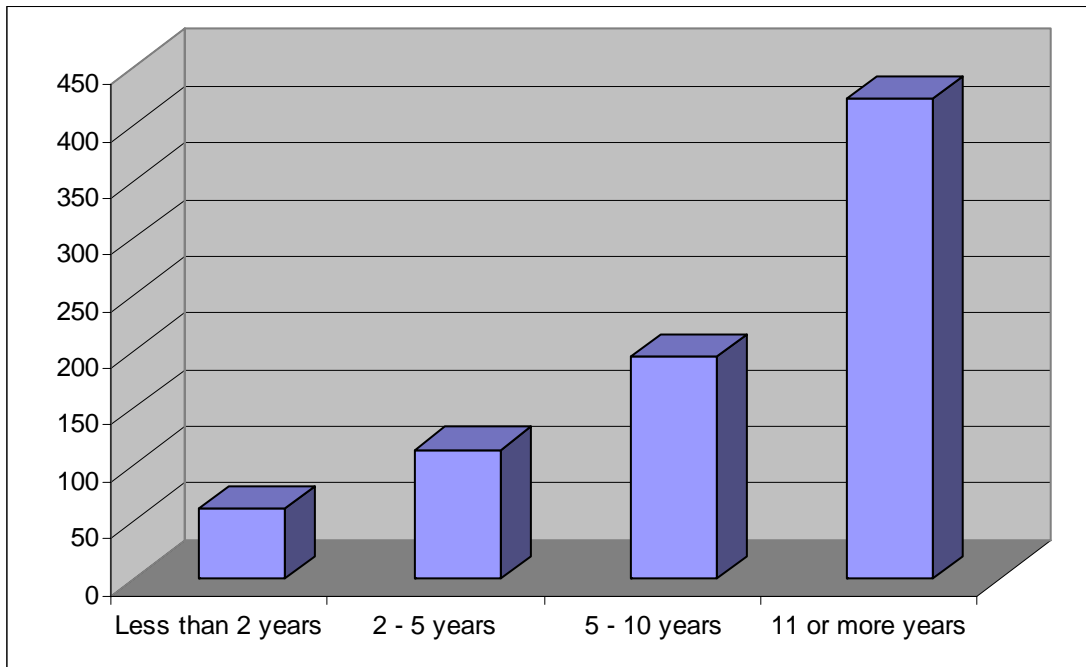
Table 7: New Participant Length of Drug Use/Abuse - Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | Less than 2 years | 2 – less than 5 years | More than 5 to 10 years | 11 or more years | Total |
|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| FY 2006-07 | 62 (8%) | 114 (14%) | 196 (25%) | 424 (53%) | 796 ³ |

² Differs from new participant total due to non-reporting or missing data.

³ Differs from new participant total due to non-reporting or missing data.

Figure 4



Recidivism

Recidivism Rates

Recidivism rates among drug court program graduates from Fiscal Year 2001-02 through 2005-06 are reported in the tables below. Recidivism is defined as a conviction on a new offense following graduation from the Drug Court Program. Five years of recidivism data is available for graduates from FY 2001-2 through FY 2003-04. The data, as reported in Table 8, show an average recidivism rate for the three cohorts of graduates of 29%. (Over 70% of those who graduated from the Los Angeles County Drug Court Program in the three fiscal years have not been convicted of a new offense).

Table 9 illustrates recidivism rates for the FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06 cohorts of drug court graduates for which only partial data is available (four- and three-year data, respectively). An average recidivism rate for the two cohorts of graduates is approximately 20%.

These recidivism rates are comparable to rates for drug courts nationwide and reflect the effectiveness of the drug court model. These rates are also significantly lower than the recidivism rates for similar offenders who do not participate in a drug court program.

Table 8: Recidivism Rates for Drug Court Graduates – 5-Year Data

| | Number of Graduates | Number of Graduates Convicted of New Offense Since Graduation | Recidivism Rate |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| FY 2001/2002 | 585 | 182 | 31.11% |
| FY 2002/2003 | 452 | 123 | 27.21% |
| FY 2003/2004 | 451 | 138 | 30.60% |
| Totals: | 1488 | 443 | 29.64% |

Table 9: Recidivism Rates for Drug Court Graduates – Partial Data

| | Number of Graduates | Number of Graduates Convicted of New Offense Since Graduation | Recidivism Rate |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| FY 2004/2005 | 433 | 104 | 24.02% |
| FY 2005/2006 | 343 | 58 | 16.91% |
| Totals | 776 | 162 | 20.47% |

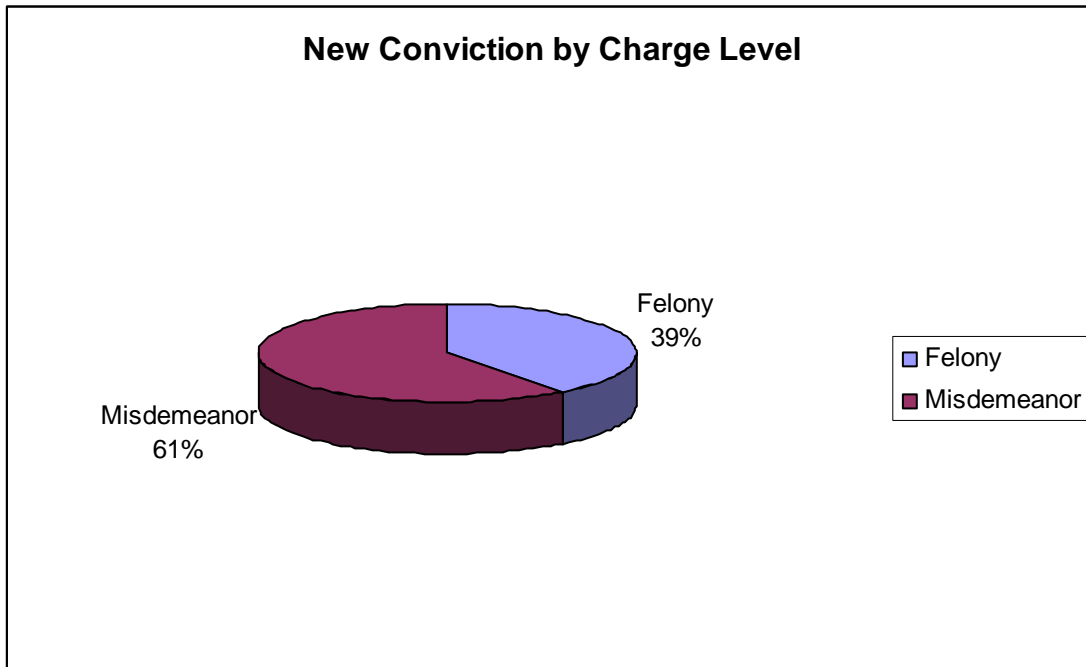
New Convictions by Charge Level

Among those graduates that were convicted of a new offense after their completion of the drug court program, 61% were convicted on misdemeanor charges, and approximately 39% were convicted of felony offenses.

Table 10: New Convictions by Charge Level FY 2001-02 through 2005-06

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| | |
| Felony | 199 (39%) |
| Misdemeanor | 406 (61%) |
| 5-year Total | 605 |

Figure 5



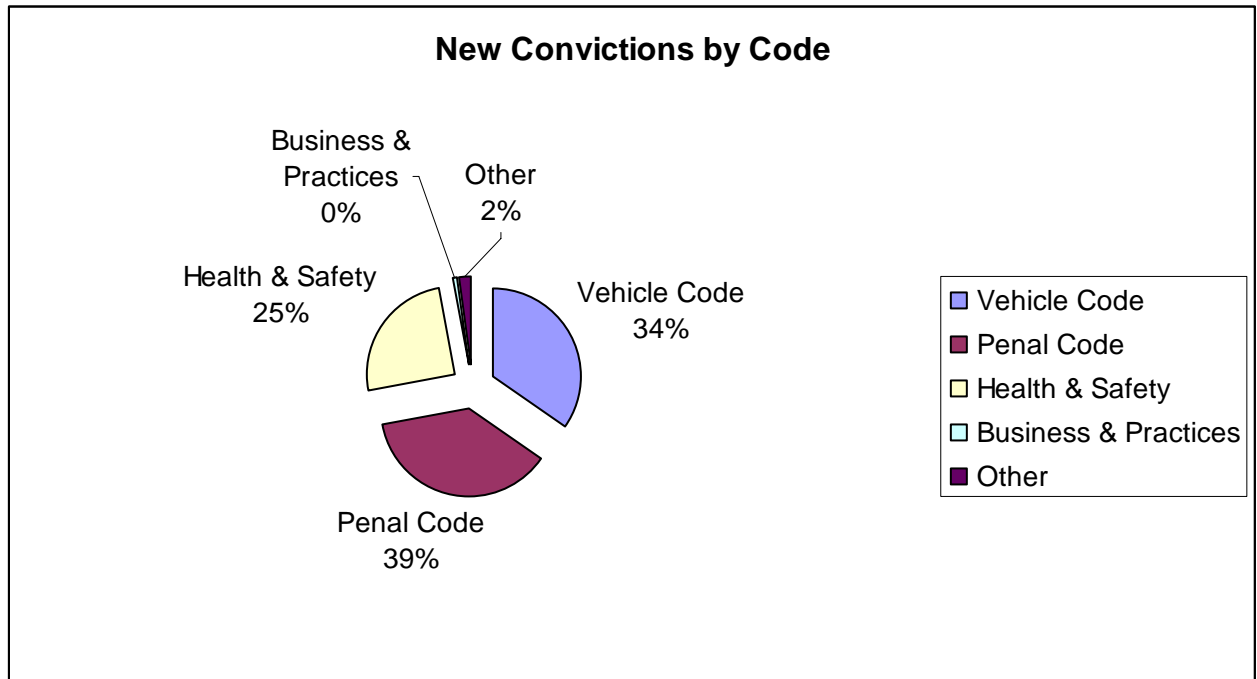
New Convictions by Code

The majority of new convictions among drug court graduates are for either vehicle or penal code offenses (34% and 39%, respectively). The third most prevalent category is health and safety code violations.

Table 11: New Convictions by Code – FY 2001-02 through 2005-06

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Vehicle Code | 208 (34%) |
| Penal Code | 228 (39%) |
| Health & Safety | 152 (25%) |
| Other | 14 (2%) |
| Business & Practices | 3 (0%) |
| 5 – Year Total | 605 |

Figure 6



VI. Training and Management Information Systems

Training

On May 18, 2007, the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee held its Annual Drug Court Training Conference utilizing funding secured through the Administrative Office of the Courts. Over 250 drug court practitioners attended the conference in Downtown Los Angeles. The UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Program partnered with CCJCC and the Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee to create the agenda and had several researchers present during the conference. The agenda included plenary presentations and break-out sessions on the newest research on drug use trends, substance abuse treatment, and best practices for collaborative courts (See Appendix F for the conference agenda). The training offered drug court teams working across the county the opportunity to meet and share information. Evaluations and feedback from the conference were overwhelmingly positive.

An annual training specifically for the drug court treatment providers was also held. The treatment provider training took place on September 22, 2006 in Alhambra, California, and allowed treatment professionals the chance to meet and discuss best practices in treating drug court participants, the most effective ways to communicate and work with drug court bench officers, and other drug court and treatment related issues. This annual training is organized by a committee of drug court treatment providers.

The Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee is continually looking for opportunities to provide training on the latest information on substance abuse treatment and intervention to all drug court practitioners in Los Angeles County. The subcommittee periodically invites experts in the fields of drug policy, drug abuse and treatment, and collaborative court processes to present at the bi-monthly subcommittee meetings.

The subcommittee also encourages its members to attend state and national meetings on drug courts. The California Association of Drug Court Professionals and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals both hold annual conferences on best practices in drug and collaborative courts. Drug court judges, attorneys, treatment providers, probation officers and others involved in the Los Angeles County Drug Court Program routinely attend these conferences.

Drug Court Management Information System (DCMIS)

The Drug Court Management Information System (DCMIS) continues to serve as an integrated data system for all Los Angeles County Adult Drug Courts, the Sentenced Offender Drug Court and the Juvenile Drug Court Programs.

DCMIS is an Internet/Intranet database application, which selectively permits access to the data by a variety of system users. To safeguard client confidentiality, all DCMIS users are registered and assigned specific data access privileges. This classification system ensures that access to protected treatment or criminal justice information is restricted to specific groups of authorized DCMIS users. Only DCMIS/CCJCC system administrators have access to the entire DCMIS database.

The DCMIS data repository provides day-to-day operational support to the County's Drug Courts and serves as a centralized source for statistical information to monitor and evaluate program outcomes and trends.

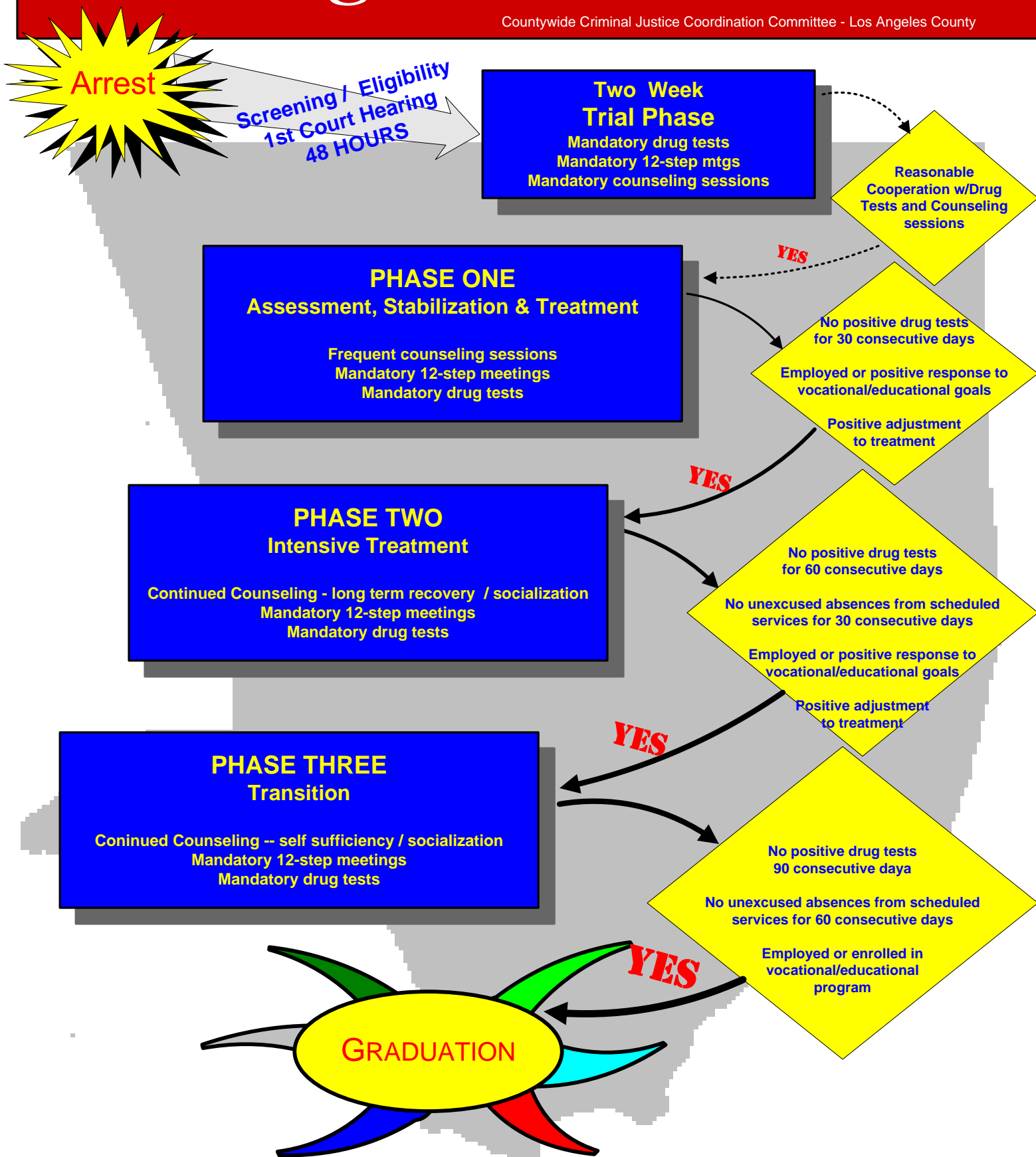
KEY ELEMENTS OF DRUG COURT

Los Angeles County Drug Court Program
Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee



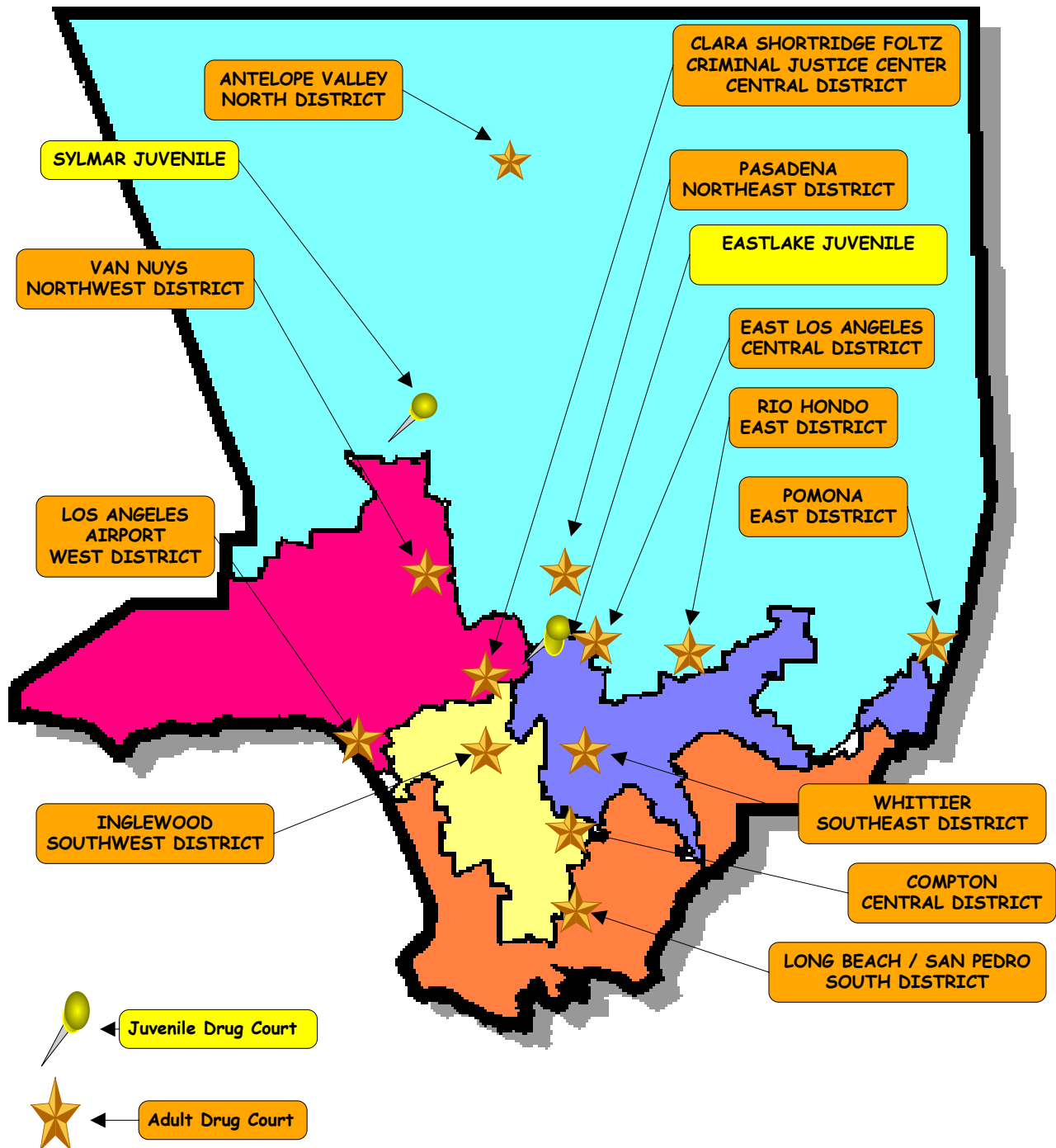
Drug Court Phases

Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee - Los Angeles County



Los Angeles County

Drug Court Programs



Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee

Board of Supervisors

Countywide Criminal Justice
Coordination Committee
(CCJCC)

Drug Court
Oversight
Subcommittee



Community Drug Courts

Clara Shortridge
Foltz Criminal
Justice Center
May 1994

Rio Hondo
July 1994

LA Airport
West District
January 1996

Pasadena
May 1995

Pomona
June 1999

Long Beach /
San Pedro
July 2000

Inglewood
April 1997

Van Nuys/
San Fernando
June 1997

Southeast
May 1997

Compton
April 1998

East Los Angeles
May 1999

Antelope Valley/
Lancaster
July 2002

Juvenile Drug Courts

Sylmar Juvenile
Court
July 1998

Eastlake Juvenile
Court
July 2002

Specialized Collaborative Courts

Co-Occurring
Disorders Court

Juvenile
Dependency Drug
Court

Sentenced
Offender Drug
Court

Women's Reentry
Court

Subcommittees

Treatment Providers

APPENDIX E

Table 1: Gender Distribution Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2006-07

| | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| FY 2002-03 | 957 (71%) | 397 (29%) | 1354 |
| FY 2003-04 | 900 (71%) | 367 (29%) | 1267 |
| FY 2004-05 | 756 (71%) | 312 (29%) | 1068 |
| FY 2005-06 | 820 (69%) | 362 (31%) | 1182 |
| FY 2006 – 07 | 548 (69%) | 250 (31%) | 798 |

Table 2: Race/Ethnicity Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2006-07

| | White | African-American | Hispanic | Native American | Asian-Pacific Islander | Other | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------|---------|-------|
| FY 2002-03 | 288 (21%) | 394 (29%) | 608 (45%) | 7 (1%) | 33 (2%) | 24 (2%) | 1354 |
| FY 2003-04 | 293 (23%) | 414 (33%) | 519 (41%) | 4 (0%) | 17 (1%) | 20 (2%) | 1267 |
| FY 2004-05 | 257 (24%) | 272 (25%) | 500 (47%) | 6 (1%) | 10 (1%) | 23 (2%) | 1068 |
| FY 2005-06 | 252 (21%) | 344 (29%) | 548 (46%) | 1 (0%) | 19 (2%) | 18 (2%) | 1182 |
| FY 2006 – 07 | 143 (18%) | 241 (30%) | 382 (48%) | 5 (1%) | 11 (1%) | 16 (2%) | 798 |

Table 3: Length of Drug Use/Abuse - Fiscal Year 2006-07

| | Less than 2 years | 2 – less than 5 years | More than 5 to 10 years | 11 or more years | Total ¹ |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| FY 2002-03 | 95 (7%) | 205 (15%) | 388 (29%) | 663 (49%) | 1351 |
| FY 2003-04 | 81 (6%) | 199 (16%) | 328 (26%) | 653 (52%) | 1261 |
| FY 2004-05 | 89 (8%) | 195 (18%) | 285 (27%) | 497 (47%) | 1066 |
| FY 2005-06 | 84 (7%) | 192 (16%) | 260 (22%) | 645 (55%) | 1181 |
| FY 2006-07 | 62 (8%) | 114 (14%) | 196 (25%) | 424 (53%) | 796 |

¹ Totals differ from new participant total due to non-reporting or missing data.



CO-CHAIR
Honorable Rudolph Diaz
Judge, LA Superior Court

Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee

Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee
County of Los Angeles



CO-CHAIR
Honorable Michael A. Tynan
Judge, LA Superior Court

Annual Drug Court Conference

May 18, 2007

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

California Endowment, Center for Healthy Communities
1000 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

AGENDA

| <u>TIME</u> | <u>SESSION</u> | <u>SPEAKER and LOCATION</u> |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | Registration and Continental Breakfast | Yosemite Foyer |
| 9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. | Welcome and Purpose | Judge Rudy Diaz, Chair Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee Yosemite Hall |
| 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Effects of Drugs on the Body | Thomas E. Freese, Ph.D. Director, Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Program Yosemite Hall |
| 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Break | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Discipline-Specific Meetings | <p>Sierra: Drug Court Judges Facilitator: Judge Rudy Diaz and Judge Michael Tynan</p> <p>Sequoia: Proposition 36 Judges Facilitator: Judge Ana Maria Luna</p> <p>Joshua Tree: Juvenile Judges Facilitator: Comm'r Robert Totten</p> <p>Mojave: Probation Officers Facilitator: Scott Stickney</p> <p>Catalina: District Attorneys Facilitator: Tom Robinson</p> <p>Redwood: Public Defenders Facilitator: Jane Newman</p> <p>Cabrillo: Court Staff Facilitator: Deidre Robertson</p> <p>Yosemite Hall: Treatment Providers Facilitators: David Ramage and Mike d'Agostin</p> |
| | | |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | <p>Awards Luncheon Honorees: Judge Bernard Kamins Judge Deborah Christian</p> <p>Drug Court Graduates</p> | <p>Judge Rudy Diaz, Chair, Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee</p> <p>Yosemite Hall</p> |
| 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Breakout Sessions | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | Session 1: Engaging Adolescent Clients | Jeanne L. Obert, MFT, MSM, Executive Director, Matrix Institute Joshua Tree |
| | Session 2: Role of the Judge: Practical Approaches for Judicial Intervention in a Drug Court Model | Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.), CA Superior Court, Alameda Drug Court Sierra |
| | Session 3: Leveraging Community Resources as a Bench Officer | Judge Ellen DeShazer , Los Angeles Superior Court, Compton Sequoia |
| | Session 4: Attorneys and Legal Representation in a Non- Adversarial Court Model | Nancy Chand, Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office Pat Brooks, Santa Monica City Attorney's Office Redwood |
| | Session 5: Treating Gang Affiliated Clients | Eddie Abasta, Gary Jones, Louie Lopez Impact Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center Mojave |
| | Session 6: Homelessness and Treatment: How to Deal with Clients Facing Housing Issues | Carrie Mounier, Children's Hospital Los Angeles Margaret Willis, Managing Partner, PATH Partners Associates Cabrillo |
| | Session 7: The Effects of Substance Abuse on Children and Families | Vivian Brown, PhD, CEO, Prototypes Catalina |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | Break | |
| 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. | Breakout Sessions (<i>repeated</i>) | |
| | Session 1: Engaging Adolescent Clients | Jeanne L. Obert, MFT, MSM, Executive Director, Matrix Institute Joshua Tree |
| | Session 2: Role of the Judge: Practical Approaches for Judicial Intervention in a Drug Court Model | Judge Peggy Fulton Hora (Ret.), CA Superior Court, Alameda Drug Court Sierra |
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| | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| | | |
| | Session 7: The Effects of Substance Abuse on Children and Families | Vivian Brown, PhD, CEO, Prototypes Catalina |
| 3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Closing Remarks | Judge Rudy Diaz, Chair, Drug Court Oversight Subcommittee Yosemite Hall |